

MAR 15 2007



**THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE**  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Nominator:

The National Medal of Technology, the Nation's highest honor for technological achievement, is presented by the President of the United States. This program was first established by statute in 1980, and the Department of Commerce is proud to be entrusted with its management. It is my pleasure to open the call for nominations for the 2007 medal laureates.

The National Medal of Technology recognizes American innovators who have made lasting contributions to advancing our global competitiveness, economic prosperity, and quality of life. These pioneers in the amazing world of science and technology are American heroes.

The Medal is awarded to individuals, teams, and/or companies/divisions for their outstanding contributions to our Nation's economy, to highlight this importance of fostering basic research and technological innovation. Past National Medal of Technology laureates continue to serve as role models for America's students by showing what they can achieve if they study science and math and apply what they learn.

The deadline for submitting 2007 nominations is May 31, 2007. Nominations will be reviewed by the National Medal of Technology Nomination Evaluation Committee, a panel of accomplished experts from the science and technology communities whose recommendations will be forwarded to me. My recommendations will then be sent to President Bush for the final decision on the Laureates for the 2007 National Medal of Technology.

As we all know, the face of competition is global today, and innovation lies at the heart of this competition. Our request for 2007 National Medal of Technology nominations is a clarion call to all Americans on two priority points. First, we recognize the pioneers, groundbreakers, and risk takers who have made the discoveries, technological advances, and new products and processes that have changed our lives and sustained America's economic leadership and standard of living. Second, but as important, the medalists embody the critical role that science and math education play in combination with our innovative, free-market spirit to keep America in the lead.

The President and I extend our deep appreciation to you for taking the time to send nominations for the 2007 National Medal of Technology. We sincerely value your assistance in encouraging others to identify high-quality candidates for the award and in advancing the cause of science and technology. Your efforts are fundamental to our ability to find and honor America's great achievers and to inspire the next generation of innovators. Thank you very much for your time and effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carlos M. Gutierrez", is written over a printed name.

Carlos M. Gutierrez